Caldwell's Assistant At L. S. U. Arrested

Eugene Barksdale Placed In Jail By Federal Investigators At Baton Rouge

BATON ROUGE, La., July 8.—(AP)—Eugene Barksdale, assistant construction superintendent at Louisiana State university, late today was arrested on a federal warrant charging conspiracy to divert WPA labor and material to private purpose.

Barksdale, 35, was assistant to George Caldwell, rotund L. S. U. construction superintendent arrested at New Orleans yesterday on a federal warrant charging him with diverting WPA material and labor.

Caldwell's assistant said at the parish jail tonight that he has been in charge of university construction work since Caldwell resigned last Monday.

Barksdale was the second arrested here on a charge preferred by WPA investigators who are conducting their own private probe into Louisiana affairs as regards WPA.

Last night James Marshall, 42-year-old WPA foreman employed on the $1,000,000 coliseum at L. S. U. was charged with diverting WPA labor and material allegedly committed on March 1, 1938.

Barksdale was charged specifically with conspiring, combining, confederating and agreeing "with one James Marshall and other persons unknown to divert and use WPA labor and ma-

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HOUSE-CLEANING AT L. S. U. ASKED

Nineteen Prominent Faculty Members Send Letter On 'Minimum Essentials'

BATON ROUGE, La., July 8.—(AP)—Nineteen prominent Louisiana State university faculty members today made public a letter containing seven "minimum essentials" for house-cleaning the school "from top to bottom" to save its academic integrity and prevent the university from becoming an "educational outcast."

The program stressed, first of all, that the institution must be entirely divorced from politics and political influence, and faculty members hinted at practices ranging from censorship to "political favoritism towards students through political fellowships and scholarships or in unwarranted grades."

The professors addressed the communication to Tom W. Dutton, president of the University Alumnae federation in Baton Rouge.

The letter follows:

"Dear Mr. Dutton:

"Your courageous radio speech of Monday night offers a challenge of the faculty of the Louisiana State university. The press, clergy and others have declared, as you have, that the university can regain the confidence of the people of the state only if it is cleaned from top to bottom.

"Governor Long, Acting President Hebert and Vice-President Middleton have promised that the cleaning will be thorough and certain. The faculty, who determine the academic prestige of the institution, must now take the responsibility of pointing out the steps which they believe necessary if the university is to reclaim the esteem which it was slowly acquiring in the academic world.

"For it must be understood that the recent disclosures have shattered the educational prestige of the university as surely as they have destroyed confidence in its business administration. Unless vigorous steps are taken to

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HOUSE-CLEANING AT L. S. U. ASKED

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convince the educational world that all exploitations of Louisiana State university has been ended once and for all, the institution will be an educational outcast.

"Graduates of Louisiana State university will find it difficult to obtain fellowships for advanced study in other institutions. Honorary societies, Phi Betta Kappa, for instance, will refuse to establish chapters on the Louisiana State university campus. Foundations and other organizations which subsidize research and teaching will withdraw the support which they have heretofore extended to the university.

"The following measures seem to the undersigned members of the faculty to be minimum essentials in any program designed to assure the academic integrity of the university.

"1. The university must be placed, as you have asserted, under the control of a board which is free of political influence.

"2. The faculty must be established as an organized group actively participating in the formation and expression of university policy.

"3. There must be an end to the situation whereby a university publication edited by faculty members can be forced by political pressure to alter its content.

"4. Political influence must play no part in determining whether or not persons on the university staff—in administrative or teaching positions—are to be retained.

"5. New appointments, whether to teaching or administrative positions, must be determined solely by evidences of merit; political pressure must play no part whatever.

"6. Promotions in rank and salary must be determined by considerations absolutely divorced from politics. There must be no hidden salary raises in the form of bonuses or "salary adjustments"; if such adjustments are made, they must be made openly and only in recognition of outstanding academic achievement.

"7. Academic standards must no longer be jeopardized by political favoritisms towards students whether through political fellowships and scholarships or in unwarranted grades.

"Unless the foregoing minimum essentials have been met in the reorganization of Louisiana State university which is now in progress, the faculty cannot go to their respective learned associations and say to their colleagues in other universities, 'Louisiana State university has cleaned house from top to bottom. Its integrity as an institution of higher education is now unimpeachable.'

"In his efforts to accomplish this program of reorganization, Acting President Hebert is entitled to the enthusiastic and uncompromising support of the faculty.

"Yours very truly,

"Ophelia Stone Stone, academic dean, Louisiana State university;

"Charles S. Hyneman, director of the school of government and public affairs;

"Marcus M. Wilkerson, director of the university press and professor of journalism;

"Duncan Ferguson, acting head of department of fine arts;

"Robert J. Harris, associate professor of government, editor 'Journal of Politics';

"Allen J. Stanley, assistant professor of zoology;

"Cleanth Brooks, Jr., associate professor of English and managing editor of 'The Southern Review';

"Edgar A. Schuler, assistant professor of sociology;

"Julian C. Miller, professor horticulture research;

"Robert B. Heilman, assistant professor of English;

"Conrad Albrizio, associate professor of fine arts;

"Lloyd W. Morris, associate professor of physics;

"R. J. Saville, professor of agricultural economics;

"A. J. Bryan, professor of English;

"A. M. Culpepper, assistant professor, school of music;

"Peter A. Carmichael, professor of philosophy and assistant dean, college of arts and sciences;

"Karl J. Arndt, assistant professor of German;

"Alex B. Daspit, assistant professor of government;

"M. G. Dakin, assistant professor of business law."